(c) when was the ERAX technology developed in this country and whether its application has proved successful in the villages and whether this technology is also going to be applied in semi-urban areas; and

(d) which indigenous technology, whether of ITI or C DOT, is stipulated for prospectives manufacturers of ERAX?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) (i) Concessional rate of duty is not limited to ERAX equipment based on C-DOT technology alone.

(ii) Concessional rate of customs duty was based on DCE's recommendations.

(c) (i) Indigenous technology for manufacturing of ERAX's was developed between 1984—87.

(ii) Field trial of 2 C-DOT RAXs were conducted during 86—88 which proved to be successful.

(iii) Semi urban areas can also be considered for installation of ERAXs. ERAXs has a maximum capacity of 88 subscribers.

(d) Both.

Power projects in Madhya Pradesh

658. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently cleared a 2000 M.W power unit for Chhindwara district in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that inspite of this sanction, Madhya Pradesh will continue to have shortage of power in the years to come;

(d) if so, what further steps are being taken to generate additional power in Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) how many proposals of Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board are pending with Government in this regard and by when they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Excepting some peak-including one joint project are pendpected to have surplus energy availability from 1989-90. Every effort is being made to expedite commissioning of ongoing projects, maximising generation from existing capacity, reducing transmission and distribution losses. Demand management and energy conservation measures are also being implemented.

(e) 11 proposals of Madhya Pradesh including one joint project are pendding approval but work on some of these has already started. The approval of projects in contingent on various factors including the availability of requisite clearances/inputs and adequate resources which require close constultation with the State authorities. As such it is not feasible to indicate a definite time limit to accord approval to projects.

Funds for new power projects in Madhya Pradesh

659. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have requested the Central Government to provide adequate funds for new power projects in the State:

(b) if so, what allocation has been made to the State during the last three years; and